

Accessing The Outdoors

A quarterly recreational resource for persons with disabilities.
Spring/Summer 2006

Now that spring is quickly on its way, it is time to start thinking about those outdoor activities that sometimes only come once or twice a year. The first event that we would like to talk about is the spring fishing opener here in Wisconsin on Saturday, May 6. First, it will be important to make sure that you have your 2006-07 Wisconsin resident annual fishing license with you, as last year's expired on March 31. The Wisconsin DNR offers a discounted fishing license to qualified persons with disabilities for \$7.00, and to resident annual disabled veterans for \$3.00. Go to your nearest DNR Service Center, your favorite license outlet, or County Clerk's office to purchase.

Here in the ILR service-region, we have access to many great accessible fishing opportunities. Whether you choose to fish from an accessible landing, shoreline, dock, or pier, and whether you like fishing for trout, panfish, or larger fish species, we are going to point you to some of these accessible locations. This may not be the complete list because we were not able to get a "master list" from the Department of Natural Resources. If you know of other accessible opportunities, please call Jason at 608-647-8053, and we will update our list below.

The following are accessible fishing opportunities located in the 13-county Independent Living Resource Service area:

County	City	Water Body	Accessible Description	Species Panfish (P), Northern (N), Musky (M), Walleye (W), Bass (B), Trout (T), Other (O)	Contact
Buffalo	NA	NA	NA	NA	Black River Falls DNR Service Center
Crawford	NA	NA	NA	NA	La Crosse DNR Service Center
Grant	NA	Lower Wisconsin	All major boat	Most species	Dodgeville DNR

		River way	landings are accessible	throughout river	Service Center
Iowa	1. NA 2.Highland/Edmund area 3.Governor Dodge State Park, Dodgeville	1.Lower Wisconsin River way 2.Blackhawk Lake 3.Cox Hollow	1.All major boat landings are accessible. Some landings have accessible fishing locations 2.Accessible pier with stops and rails 3.Accessible pier with stops/rails	1. most species throughout river 2. P,B,N,W, 3.P,B,N,W	Dodgeville DNR Service Center
Jackson	Black River Falls Black River Falls Black River Falls	Upper Black River Lake Wazee Teal Flowage	Concrete pad Accessible pier Accessible Pier-under design construction	P, B, N, W, M, O P, B, T P, B	Black River Falls DNR Service Center
Juneau	Necedah	Castle Rock Flowage	Accessible pier	N, B, P, W, O	Buckhorn State Park
Lafayette	Blanchardville/Argyle	Yellowstone Lake	Pier with extensive rail	P,B,N,O,W	Dodgeville DNR Service Center
La Crosse	La Crosse La Crosse	Pettibone Pond Black River	Pier Pier	P, B, N, O P, B, N, W, O	City of La Crosse Parks Dept.
Monroe	Sparta	Perch Lake	Pier (TBA)	P, B, N, O	
Richland	NA	Lower Wisconsin River Way	All major boat landings are accessible	Most species throughout river	
Sauk	1.NA 2.near Plain 3.Baraboo	1.Lower Wisconsin River way 2.Whitemound 3.Devil's Lake	1.All major boat landings are accessible 2.Accessible fishing pier 3.Paved accessible path along south shore	1.Most species throughout river 2.B,N,P,O 3.P,N,B,T,O	Dodgeville DNR Service Center
Trempealeau	Trempealeau	Second Lake	Accessible Pier	P, B, N, O	Black River Falls DNR

					Service Center
Vernon	Coon Valley Esofea	Coon Creek Runge Hollow Lake	Paved Paths Pier	T P, B, O	DNR Fisheries Supervisor 785-9000

There are also some other great opportunities for accessible fishing that you may want to check out:

Fishing Has No Boundaries Events in Wisconsin www.fhnbinc.org
 North American Squirrel Association - Free use of pontoon boat to persons with disabilities and elders www.nasasquirrel.org

The North American Squirrel Association is also working with the Wisconsin DNR to place 3 new fully accessible fishing piers in our area. One on Lake Onalaska near Shafer's Boat Livery on County Rd. z, and the other on Lake Neshonoc in West Salem. These 2 piers are tentatively scheduled to be in place by the fishing opener this spring. The 3rd will be at Perch Lake in Sparta, and more details will be coming soon. If you have an idea for an accessible fishing area to be developed, contact Steve or Jason, or your DNR Service Center.

Have you ever tasted morel mushrooms? How about actually going out and searching for them? It is a fun and challenging sport, but one really has to know what they are doing and have a keen eye. There are species of mushrooms that look like the morel, but are not, and are actually poisonous. Here are some resources for information and tips on morel mushroom hunting:

<http://www.thegreatmorel.com/info.html>

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/publicat.htm>

Check out this year's Morel Mushroom Fest at Wisconsin's Morel Capitol in Muscoda May 20 & 21: <http://grantcounty.org/ci/muscoda/event-morels.html>

The next issue of Accessing the Outdoors will look at...
 Wisconsin's Accessible cabins, State parks, and trails
 Getting ready for the fall hunting season
 Accessible/adaptive outdoor equipment

If you would like more information and details on the resources provided, contact Jason at the Richland Center office at 1-877-471-2095.